

Docket No.: 58266/J257
Amdt date August 23, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

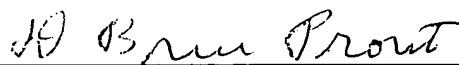
Claims 1-23 remain in the application. Claim 12 has been amended.

The introduction was amended to cross reference the International and Korean applications on which the application is based.

An Abstract of the Disclosure, on a separate page, is attached hereto.

It is respectfully requested that the foregoing preliminary amendment be entered prior to examination.

Respectfully submitted,
CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By 
D. Bruce Prout
Reg. No. 20,958
626/795-9900

DBP/aam

AAM PAS697156.1-* -08/23/06 1:10 PM

ABSTRACT

A clay-polyurethane nanocomposite comprising a clay and a polyurethane covalently bonded to the surface of the clay wherein the polyurethane is formed by reacting a clay-containing diisocyanate compound with a polyol, the clay-containing diisocyanate compound contains a diisocyanate compound covalently bonded to surface silanol groups of the clay and 0.5~5% by weight of the clay based on the diisocyanate compound, and the clay is exfoliated by the polyurethane such that no wide-angle X-ray diffraction (WAXD) peak is detected between 2 θ and 10 θ by XRD measurement. The clay-polyurethane nanocomposite structure has clay layers are completely exfoliated. In addition, the clay-polyurethane nanocomposite can be foamed to prepare a foamed clay-polyurethane nanocomposite.